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the comets hockey magazine

1956-57

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Home of the Clinton Comets

The Comets Hockey Magazine is published 30 times during the hockey season in the months of November, December, January, February, and March. Sold at all home games of the Clinton Comets - 15c a copy.

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The Comets are playing their third season in the Eastern Hockey League, the sixth league of which they have been a member since the club was organized 29 yeears ago.

The Eastern Hockey League was organized in December 1933 as an outgrowth of the year-old Tri-State Hockey League. Atlantic City Sea Gulls, Baltimore Orioles and Hershey Bears were the three teams in the Tri-State loop.

When the group became the Eastern League, the three original teams were joined by the Bronx Tigers, Crescent-Hamilton Club, St. Nick's and the New York Athletic Club, all of New York City.

Many changes have taken place in the member teams of the Eastern League during its 23 year history. New teams have joined the circuit, others have dropped out, some have re-joined. On two occasions the league suspended operations due to the lack of sufficient teams.

At one time or another the following teams have been members of the Eastern League: Pittsburgh Yellow Jackets, Washington Eagles, Riverdale (N.J.) Skeeters, Boston Olympics, Johnstown Blue Birds, Coast Guard Cutters (Curtis Bay, Md.), Philadelphia Falcons, Manhattan Arrows, Jamaica Hawks, Brooklyn Torpedos, Sands Point Tigers (all of New York), New Haven Eagles, New York Rovers, Brooklyn Crescents, Baltimore Blades, Washington Lions, Baltimore Clippers, Toledo Buckeyes, Grand Rapids Rockets, Milwaukee Clarks, Cleveland Knights, Johnstown Jets, Springfield (Mass.) Indians,

EASTERN HOCKEY LEAGUE RUNNERS-UP



1955-56 COMETS

Standing: Bob Williams, manager, John Murray, stick boy, Greg Batt, Gordie Jamieson, Joe Nolan, Jerry Stringle, Don Kendall, George Steele, Gerry Frizzelle, Jack Timmins, coach. Sitting: Bernie Hill, captain, Bill Kawulia, Willie Pawchuck, Doug Coxon, Ken Grabeldinger, Archie Burton, Ken Graham.

New Haven Tomahawks, Troy Uncle Sams, New Haven Nutmegs, and Worcester Warriors.

For two separate seasons, 1948-49 and 1953-54, the Eastern League was inactive. During the first inactive year the New York Rovers and Boston Olympics competed in the Quebec Hockey League. The Comets helped

revive the circuit following its second inactive season.

During the 1947-48 season New York and Boston played in both the Eastern League and the Quebec League . . . Clinton was in the Eastern League and the Eastern Ontario League in 1954-55 . . . The

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Eastern League had eastern and western divisions at the start of the 1949-50 season and northern and southern divisions at the start of the 1949-50 season and northern and southern divisions at the start of the 1951-52 season. However in both years the league reverted to one group as clubs dropped out during the season. . . In the early years of the Eastern League, through the 1941-42 season, the schedule was divided into two or three cup series with the winner of each part of the season receiving either the Mayor Walker, Boardwalk or Hershey Cups. . . Games with Canadian teams were included in Eastern League standings in 1938-39, 1939-40, 1940-41, 1946-47, 1947-48 and 1948-49 when competition was for the Hamilton B. Wills International Trophy.

NEW RULE

If, while a team is short handed by one or more minor penalties, the opposing team scores a goal, the first of such penalties shall automatically terminate.

("Short handed" means that the team must be below the numerical strength of its opponents at the time the goal is scored.)

Watch for flying pucks. Management not responsible for injuries.

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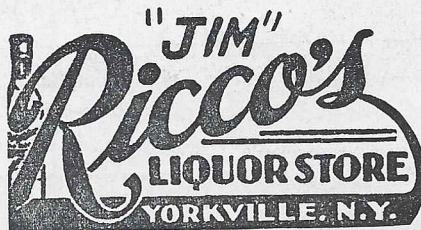
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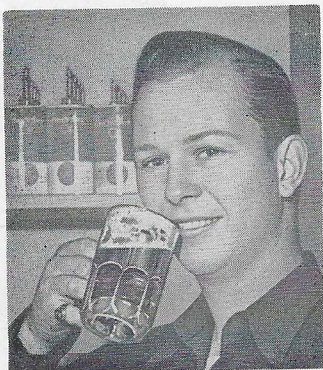
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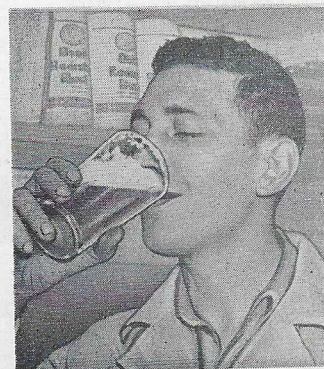


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1955-56 Comet Player's Records

PLAYER	Position	Games	Goals	Assists	Min. Pen.
WILLIE PAWCHUK	Forward	73	56	54	41
GEORGE STEELE	Forward	68	44	60	30
JERRY STRINGLE	Forward	69	39	63	60
ARCHIE BURTON	Forward	73	40	52	29
GERRY FRIZZELLE	Forward	72	49	38	39
KEN GRAHAM	Forward	73	29	53	33
KEN GRABELDINGER	Forward	34	14	27	10
BERNIE HILL	Defense	62	10	25	30
JOE NOLAN	Defense	71	10	21	368
GORDIE JAMIESON	Defense	73	7	20	84
JACK TIMMINS	Forward	56	3	13	14
DON KENDALL	Defense	35	0	8	12
BILL KAWULIA	Forward	26	2	3	4
GREG BATT	Forward	14	1	1	2
DOUG COXON	Goalie	73	0	0	14

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Clinton Pee Wees (boys under 15 years old) won the H.L. Garren State Championship for the second straight year in the tournament held in Troy last March.

Scores of games in the State Tourney were as follows:

Clinton	6	Canton	0
Clinton	8	Lake Placid	2
Clinton	4	Potsdam	0

Other teams taking part were Troy, Morey Park, Massena and Syracuse.

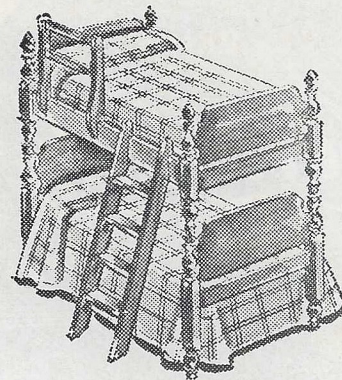
In the National Championships held the following week-end in Boston, Clinton won in the first round but were defeated in the semi-finals by the team which eventually won

the championship. The scores:

Clinton	5	Worcester, Mass.	3
E. Houghton, Mich.	7	Clinton	2

Taking part in Clinton Pee Wee activities last season were 92 boys from the central New York area under the supervision and direction of Red Goering. At least three sessions a week during the season provide for practice and an informal series of games.

An interested group of supporters assists with arrangements for trips, which last year included a week-end at Canton in addition to the two tournaments. Comet fans, through a collection at one of the Eastern League games, provided the funds for the trip to Boston.



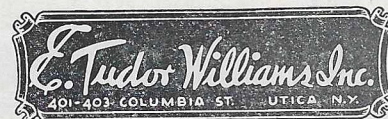
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A regulation game consists of three 20 minute periods of actual playing time and an intermission of approximately 10 minutes between periods. Should the score be tied at the close of regulation time, an overtime period is played until one team scores, but not longer than 10 minutes. At the start of the game, the home club shall defend the goal nearest its bench. Goals are changed for each period.

A substitute may enter the game at any time, but the player he is replacing must be at the players bench before the change is made.

A goal is scored when the puck passes between the goal posts and entirely across the red line between the posts. If the puck is kicked or thrown into the goal by an attacking player, the goal is not allowed.

Goals are signaled by a red light above the screen behind each goal.

At the beginning of each period and after each score play is started at center ice by a face-off between the opposing centers. Play is continued until halted by the referees whistle.

PLAYING THE GAME

The puck may be passed between one player and another within any one of the three zones into which the ice is divided.

The puck may be passed from a team's defending zone across the first blue line up to the center red line. Neither the puck nor the player receiving it may be across the red line.

Players of an attacking team must not precede the puck into the attacking zone.

If a player receives an illegal pass, he is said to be **off-side** and the penalty for this is a face-off.

If a puck passed to a player who has preceded it into the attacking zone is intercepted by a player of the opposing team, the referee or linesman will delay his whistle and refrain from blowing it altogether if the puck is immediately brought out of the zone by the defending player.

The referee or linesman signals a delayed whistle by raising his arm.

If any player shoots the puck from his own half of the ice beyond the goal line of the opposing team, it is called

ICING, and when a player of the opposing team, except the goalie, touches the puck, play is stopped and the penalty is a face-off near the offender's goal.

Icing is allowed if the team of the player doing the icing has less men on the ice than the opposing team due to a penalty.

TIME PENALTIES

In addition to the above face-off penalties, there are six classes of time penalties.

Minor: Two minutes for any player except a goalie; no substitute allowed.

Major: Five minutes for any player, except a goalie; no substitute allowed.

Misconduct: Ten minutes for any player, except a goalie; substitute allowed.

Game misconduct: Balance of game for any player; substitute allowed.

Match: Balance of game for any player; substitute allowed after five minutes or after 10 minutes, depending on the infraction.

Penalty Shot: If a player is fouled when he has a clear shot at the goal, a penalty shot is awarded the attacking team. (The time penalty is not served if the penalty shot is successful.)

ILLEGAL PLAY



Board Checking: A minor or major penalty shall be imposed on a player who body checks his opponent so that he is thrown violently into the side boards. (A player may be checked or squeezed into the boards as long as it isn't done violently.)



Charging: A minor or major penalty shall be imposed on a player who charges an opponent.

(continued on page 25)

TROPHY PRESENTATION



Eastern League President Thomas F. Lockhart presenting Hershey Trophy to Captain Bernie Hill of the Comets during 1955-56 play-offs

WATCH THE PUCK

It will add to your enjoyment of the hockey game if you watch the puck. Neglect of this suggestion may result in serious injury whenever the puck leaves the ice.

CHECK THAT IMPULSE TO LITTER ICE --- It might result in serious injury to players or officials. Fans have a right to register dissatisfaction with decisions of officials, but when they take to throwing things on the ice, they are doing a disservice to the hockey players. So remember -- Check That Impulse -- it will result in better hockey for all concerned.

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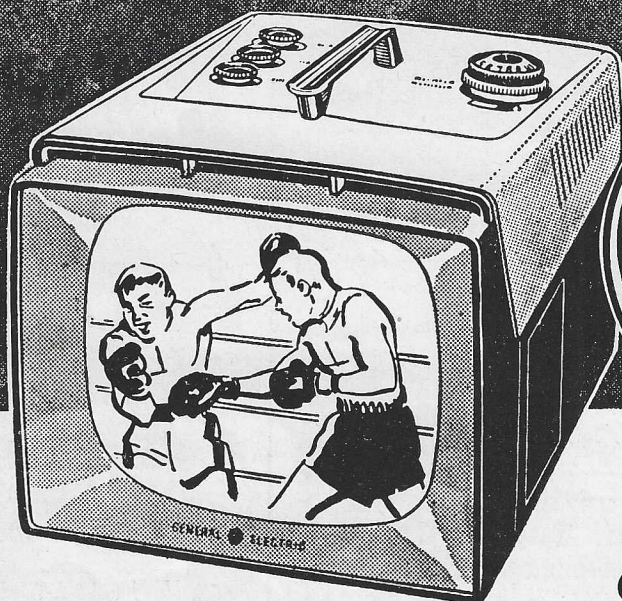
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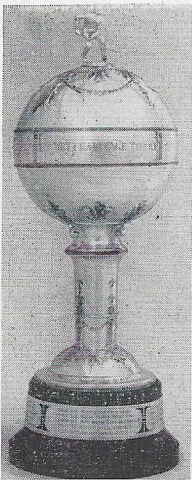
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HERSHEY CHALLENGE TROPHY

Winning their second Eastern League trophy in their two seasons in the loop, the Comets captured the Hershey Challenge Trophy last year by virtue of taking second place in regular season play.

The previous year, their first in the Eastern circuit, the Comets took league honors and the Mayor Walker Trophy.

Originally donated to the Tri-State League in 1932 by the Hershey Chocolate Corporation, the Hershey Challenge Trophy became the property of the Eastern League when it replaced the Tri-State loop in 1933. The Comets wrested the cup from the Washington Lions, 1954-55 winners.

Third award of the Eastern loop is the Atlantic City Boardwalk Trophy, held annually by the playoff winner, this year in the possession of the New Haven Blades.

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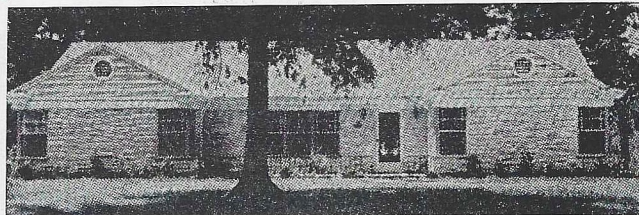
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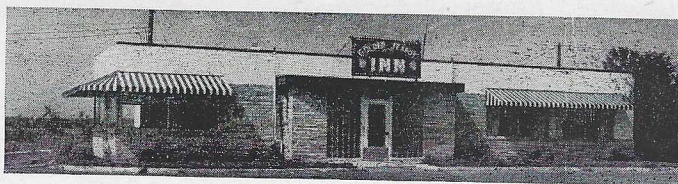


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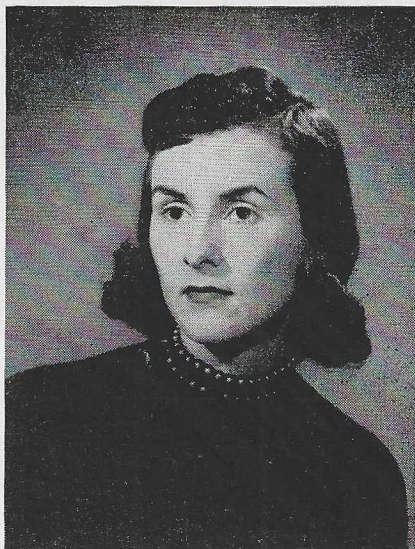
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Serving as the fourth professional for the Clinton Figure Skating Club in its seventh year is Miss Regina McManus, native of Clinton and former member of the club.

In addition to an active skating career with the local club, Miss McManus also skated in Lake Placid and Syracuse. She turned pro to join the Hollywood Ice Review with which she travelled last season. Last summer she was assistant pro at Syracuse.

At the close of each season the club presents its members and one or more guest stars in the Ice Parade, tentatively scheduled this season for March 15, 16 and 17.

An outline of club sessions and fees may be secured at the arena office or by mail from Clinton Figure Skating Club, Clinton, N. Y.

Officers of the club this season are the Rev. Justin Grabovsky, president; David Reardon, vice-president; Mrs. Harry A. Dorr, secretary; and John A. Elliott, treasurer.

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League schedule on page 31

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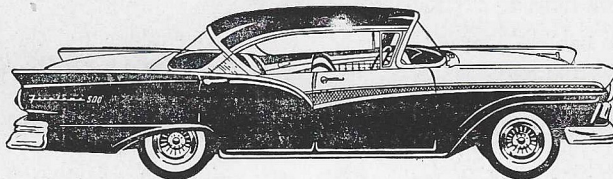
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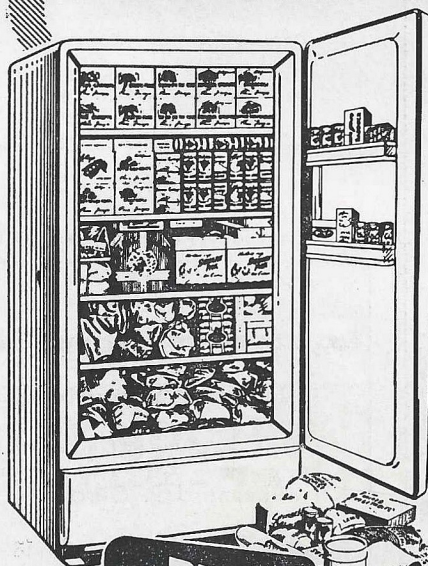
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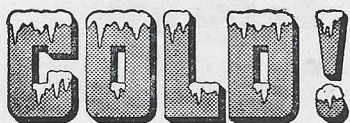
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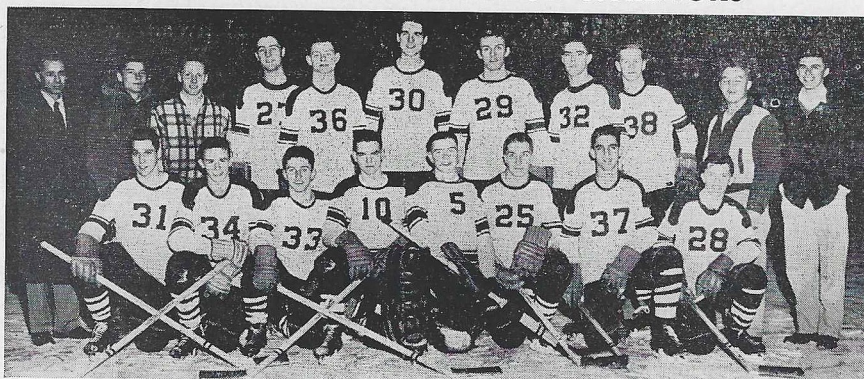


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1955-56 Season Record

3	Troy	2	6	**Rome	1
7	*Rome	1	2	**Lake Placid	3
3	*Lake Placid	1	8	***Massena	1
10	*Valley, Syracuse	0	2	***Lake Placid	4
5	Rome	0	Won - 10 Tied - 1 Lost - 2		
4	Lake Placid	3	* Hamilton College Invitation		
2	Lake Placid	2	Tournament		
9	New Rochelle	2	** Lake Placid Tournament		
7	**Massena	1	*** Clarkson College Tournament		

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Clinton	Comets	Arena	2,000	Edward W. Stanley
Johnstown	Jets	Cambria County War Memorial	6,000	Jack Riley
New Haven	Blades	Arena	6,400	Nathan Podoloff
Philadelphia	Ramblers	Arena	7,800	George L. Davis, Jr.
Washington	Lions	Uline Arena	7,500	Paul Rothgeb

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Intermediate hockey at the Arena last season was represented by the Utica Mohawks, formerly known as the Clinton Stars. Player-coach Dick Dockrell was assisted in the management of the team by Roger Cresswell, Sr.

Because the New York State Hock-

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ey League was inactive last year, the Mohawks played a series of 11 exhibition games, most of them contested on Arena ice. The scores:

Mohawks	8	Syracuse Shamrocks	4
Mohawks	8	Syracuse Shamrocks	6
Mohawks	3	Rochester Packers	3
Mohawks	2	Rochester Packers	10
Mohawks	7	Alexandria Bay	6
Mohawks	10	Albany	2
Mohawks	8	Syracuse Shamrocks	7
Mohawks	8	St. Lawrence Frosh	10
Mohawks	5	Syracuse Shamrocks	7
Mohawks	2	Hamilton College	1
Mohawks	4	Rochester Packers	5

Won - 6

Tied - 1

Lost - 4

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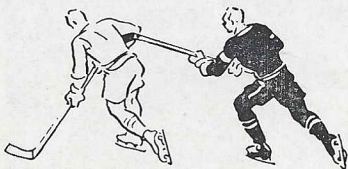
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Falling On Puck: A minor penalty shall be imposed on a player, other than the goal keeper, who deliberately falls on or gathers a puck into his body.

Broken Stick: A minor penalty shall be imposed on a player who engages in play with a broken stick, but he may drop it and play without a stick.



Hooking: A minor penalty shall be imposed on a player who hooks his opponent with his stick.



Cross-checking: A minor or major penalty shall be imposed on a player who cross-checks, butt-ends or spears an opponent.



Elbowing or Kneeing: A minor or major penalty shall be imposed on a player who elbows or knees an opponent.



Slashing: A minor penalty shall be imposed on any player who impedes or seeks to impede the progress of an opponent by slashing with his stick.



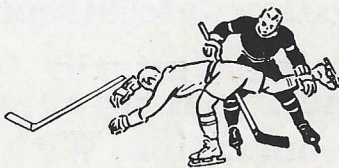
Handling the Puck: A minor penalty shall be imposed on a player, other than the goalkeeper, who closes his hand on the puck.

High Sticking: A minor penalty may be imposed at the discretion of the referee on a player for carrying his stick above the shoulder.

Holding: A minor penalty shall be imposed on a player who holds an opponent.



Interference: A minor penalty shall be imposed on any player who interferes with an opponent who is not in possession of the puck.



Tripping: A minor penalty shall be imposed on any player who shall place his stick, knee, foot, arm, hand or elbow in such a manner that it shall cause his opponent to trip or fall. (Tripping calls for a penalty whether intentional or not.)

NOTE: In case of an injury, play is not stopped until the injured player's team has possession of the puck.

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NEW ARENA FLOOR

Latest major improvement to the Arena is the terrazzo floor installed last spring, making the building available for use during the entire year, rather than just in the winter.

Summer activities included dances, roller skating and shows, conducted from May 23 through September 29. Events started with a three-day antique show; dancing was held every Saturday night; 44 sessions of roller skating were conducted.

In addition to the regular weekly dances, four name bands appeared

here during the summer, the Dorsey Brothers, the Glenn Miller Orchestra, Les Elgart and Art Mooney. Four country and western shows were also presented.

Over 400 tons of concrete and other material were used in the floor which is 4½ inches thick. Refrigeration pipes are in the exact center of the slab with 1½ inches of floor above the pipes. The Arena's new floor was built jointly by Dafoe Metalcrete Floor Co., Limited, of Toronto, Ontario, and Stewart Construction Co.,



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The base of 190 cubic yards of concrete was poured in one day and that same evening a ¾ inch specially graded trap rock topping was added, a mixture of cement, water and a



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carload of an extremely hard rock imported from Canada. Concrete for the base was supplied by N. D. Peters & Co., Inc., of Utica.

During the initial curing period, the new floor was ground to a polished finish making an excellent surface for dancing, roller skating and any

other activities. Brass inserts were installed in the floor to support hockey, tennis and lacrosse nets.

Ice is made directly on top of the terrazzo floor after it has been thoroughly cleaned from summer activities. There are 16,000 sq. ft. of space in the floor. Ice is maintained at as near to one inch thick as possible.

The new floor was financed through the sale of \$20,000 of participating certificates to a group of friends of the arena. Income from the use of the floor will be used for interest and amortization of certificates until the entire fund has been retired.

Due to the addition of the floor, the arena is now available for rent both in the summer and winter. Winter use will be for ice activities only. Over 500 chairs and a supply of tables are also available for use with the building.

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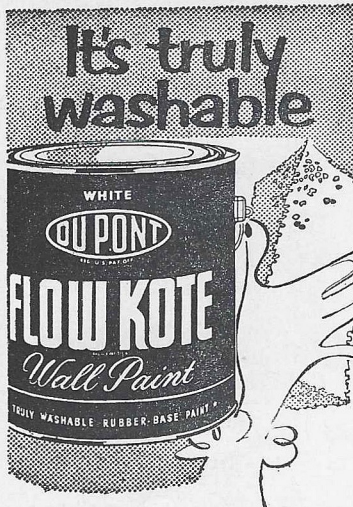
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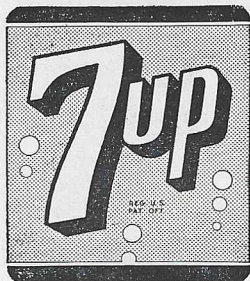
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FINAL STANDINGS

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	Won	Lost	Tied	Pts
New Haven	43	18	3	89
Clinton	33	28	3	69
Washington	33	28	3	69
Johnstown	32	32	0	64
Baltimore	23	40	1	47
Philadelphia	23	41	0	46

(The Comets won second place with a total of 299 goals scored during the season to 258 for Washington.)

PLAY-OFF RECORD

	Won	Lost
New Haven	7	2
Clinton	4	5
Washington	1	3
Johnstown	1	3

The Comets scored four shutouts during the 1955-56 season, two against Philadelphia, one each against Baltimore and New Haven. New Haven gave the Comets their sole shutout of the season.

Longest winning streak for the Comets in 1955-56 was eight games. Longest losing streak was six defeats.

Do not walk on the ice; it is slippery! A fall may cause serious injury, for which the Arena assumes no responsibility.

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Home Schedule

Sat., Oct. 27—New Haven
Tues., Oct. 30—Charlotte
Sat., Nov. 3—Washington
Sat., Nov. 10—Philadelphia
Tues., Nov. 13—Washington
Sat., Nov. 17—New Haven
Sat., Nov. 24—Philadelphia
Tues., Nov. 27—Johnstown
Sat., Dec. 1—Charlotte
Sat., Dec. 8—Philadelphia
Sat., Dec. 15—Charlotte
Sat., Dec. 22—Philadelphia
Wed., Dec. 26—Johnstown
Sat., Dec. 29—Philadelphia
Sun., Dec. 30—Washington
Wed., Jan. 2—Johnstown
Sat., Jan. 5—New Haven
Tues., Jan. 8—Charlotte
Sat., Jan. 12—New Haven
Tues., Jan. 15—Charlotte
Sat., Jan. 19—Philadelphia
Tues., Jan. 22—Washington
Sat., Jan. 26—New Haven
Sun., Jan. 27—New Haven
Sat., Feb. 2—Washington
Sat., Feb. 9—Johnstown
Sat., Feb. 16—New Haven
Tues., Feb. 19—Charlotte
Sat., Feb. 23—Philadelphia
Sat., Mar. 2—New Haven
Tues., Mar. 5—Johnstown
Sat., Mar. 9—Charlotte

Road Schedule

Sun., Oct. 28—New Haven
Wed., Oct. 31—Johnstown
Wed., Nov. 7—Johnstown
Mon., Nov. 12—New Haven
Wed., Nov. 21—Johnstown
Fri., Nov. 23—Philadelphia
Wed., Nov. 28—Washington
Sun., Dec. 2—Johnstown
Tues., Dec. 4—Charlotte
Thurs., Dec. 6—Charlotte
Fri., Dec. 7—Philadelphia
Wed., Dec. 12—Washington
Tues., Dec. 18—Philadelphia
Wed., Dec. 19—Washington
Fri., Dec. 21—Philadelphia
Tues., Jan. 1—New Haven
Sun., Jan. 6—New Haven
Wed., Jan. 9—Johnstown
Wed., Jan. 16—Washington
Wed., Jan. 23—Johnstown
Thurs., Jan. 24—Charlotte
Tues., Jan. 29—Philadelphia
Sun., Feb. 3—New Haven
Tues., Feb. 5—Charlotte
Thurs., Feb. 7—Charlotte
Sun., Feb. 10—New Haven
Tues., Feb. 12—Philadelphia
Wed., Feb. 20—Washington
Wed., Feb. 27—Washington
Thurs., Feb. 28—New Haven
Sun., Mar. 3—Johnstown
Sun., Mar. 10—New Haven

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Courtesy of International Hockey Hall of Fame, Kingston, Ontario

I'm a fairly peaceful man and an old-time baseball fan,
You can hear me yell when Kaline hits the ball;
And I howl when PeeWee stabs one, and I growl when Jackie grabs one,
And I roar when Mantle's homer clears the wall.

But the diamond sport is quiet to that reeling, rousing riot,
To a smashing game of hockey at its prime;
It's a shindig wild and gay; it's a battle served frappe;
Give me hockey—I'll take hockey—anytime.

Once, when crazy with the heat, I coughed up to buy a seat,
Just to see a pair of robbers grab a purse.
It was clinch and stall and shove, and "please excuse my glove,"
Till I blessed them with a healthy Irish curse.

But for fighting fast and free, grab your hat and come with me,
Sure the thing that they call "Boxing" is a crime,
And for ground and lofty whacking and enthusiastic smacking,
Give me hockey—I'll take hockey—anytime.

I've an ever-ready ear for a rousing football cheer,
And I love to see a half-back tackle low,
It's a really gorgeous sight, when the boys begin to fight,
With a touchdown only half a yard to go.

But take all the most exciting parts of football, baseball, fighting,
And then mix them up to make a game sublime,
Serve it up with lots of ice, you don't have to ask me twice,
Give me hockey—I'll take hockey—anytime.

Yes, for speed and pep and action, there is only one attraction,
You'll see knockouts there a dozen for a dime,
When the bright steel blades are ringing, and the shinny sticks are swing-
ing,
Give me hockey—I'll take hockey—anytime.

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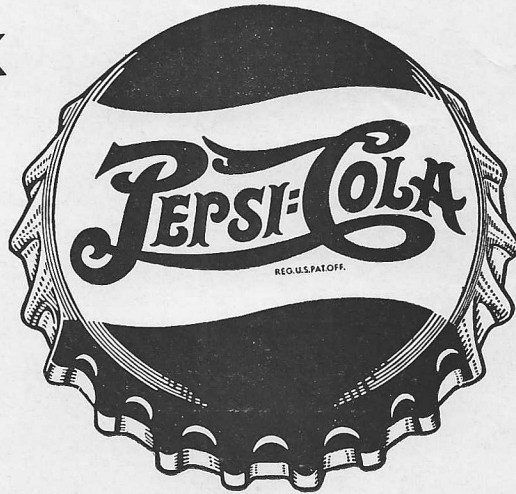


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